

Draft of Letter to be sent to Legislators endorsing the passage Road Salt Legislation
Randy Preston Safe Roads and Clean Waters Act (A.8767/S.6824)

(thanks to Marcus Harazin for drafting this letter)

We/ I urge you to take action to pass the proposed legislation to establish the Adirondack road salt reduction task force, pilot plan and test program known as the Randy Preston Safe Roads and Clean Waters Act (A.8767/S.6824).

Infiltration of road salt into the Canada Lakes, surrounding water bodies and local wells in the Town of Caroga is a serious public health issue and injurious to the fish and aquatic wildlife populations. Water quality samples collected through the Adirondack Lake Assessment Program (ALAP) have detected an alarming increase in sodium and chloride levels in Canada Lake and nearby Caroga Lake. In 2017, ALAP tests showed that Canada Lake showed levels higher than 67% of the Adirondack lakes due in great part to the proximity of the shoreline to the state highway.

At the same time, we recognize that safe road access is critical during the harsh winter months experienced in our area. Therefore, it is critical that state resources are focused on developing and testing options to avoid excessive road salt application.

We urge the leadership of the Assembly and Senate and the Chairmen of the respective Transportation Committees to act as soon as possible so that we can proactively work on this issue in our Adirondack communities.

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